

## ABSTRACT

Techniques are disclosed for programmatically calculating directions (or other types of paths between points) without reliance on proprietary file formats or binary shape files, and without requiring application programmers to write code that performs complex manipulations of directed graphs. Preferred embodiments leverage built-in functions of a spatially-enabled object relational database system. Information about intersections between streets is used in a novel manner to compute paths between points. The intersection information is preferably obtained from precomputed information stored in a spatially-enabled relational database table.

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